

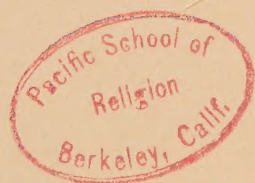
Peace & War

The Church Peace Union

(Founded by Andrew Carnegie)




*Report of
The Secretaries
for the year 1933*



70 Fifth Avenue
New York
January
1934

SY41
C475
1933



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Report of the Secretaries to the
Twentieth Annual Meeting of
the Board of Trustees

December 7, 1933



70 Fifth Avenue
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THE CHURCH PEACE UNION

REPORTS OF THE SECRETARIES TO THE TWENTIETH ANNUAL MEETING

OF THE

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

December 7, 1933

I. REPORT OF THE GENERAL SECRETARY

As the Trustees come together on the occasion of the Twentieth Annual Meeting of the Board, it is with a feeling of profound disquiet in view of what has taken place among the nations during the past year as well as what threatens for the future. Almost every major effort to better international relations has failed, and now nearly all channels of good will are blocked. A survey of world conditions confirms the deep pessimism which has superseded the extravagant optimism found in the allied countries just after the war. We now see more clearly than ever before what a frightful disaster war is under any condition.

Relations between France and Germany, which improved under Stresemann and Briand, have, through the advent of Hitler and the New Movement in Germany, become more strained than at any time since the war. Germany, by her militant nationalism and the truculence of her leaders, has alienated friends and more deeply embittered her traditional foes, so that today Germany is more isolated than she was when the Great War began in August, 1914.

Japan, in defiance of world opinion, has gone steadily forward in her plans of conquest. Confusion and civil war in China have played into the hands of the military powers of Japan. The south of China, with Canton as its capital, is allying itself with Russia while the north is mildly pro-Japanese. The Central Government of China stands between these two forces. The recognition of Russia by the United States is not only an economic gesture but has behind it enormous possibilities for good or ill, because if Japan and Russia come

to a clash, almost certainly the Western interests will be involved and it is not at all unlikely that at the present time the alignment is such that were war to break out in the East, Japan would find herself opposed by Russia, China and the United States. Meanwhile, the League of Nations is impotent and unable to enforce its judgments.

When Japan found herself under indictment by the League and an unanimous judgment was voted against her, she calmly withdrew. Later when Germany found that she could not secure approval of what she had done through the League and was unable to stop criticism, she followed Japan's example. Meantime, new alignments are being made and strengthened in Europe. Hitler has added enormously to the prestige of the Petit Entente. Czecho-Slovakia, Yugoslavia, Roumania and Poland now have, if not the formal, at least the tacit support of Italy. Austria has been thrown into the arms of this group. Hungary and Bulgaria are also aligning themselves with this new Danubian aggregation of states. Greece and Turkey have come to an understanding and relations in the entire Balkan Peninsula are more friendly than they have been for a generation. For the time being, any Pan-Germanic dream is shattered by the stupidity of German diplomacy and the impossible internal administration of German affairs by Adolf Hitler.

The Disarmament Conference has failed so far to reach any worthwhile conclusion. After nearly two years of consultation not one single achievement can be recorded. There is not one agreement by which a single gun is scrapped or a single soldier dismissed. Fear and misapprehension have blocked the efforts of a movement which has had the endorsements of hundreds of millions of people from every part of the world. There are those who see nothing but ruin and disaster ahead. Some people fear that war is certain within a very few months. Others feel that it will probably not occur for some three to five years while others give ten years. It is difficult to find a person who is willing to say boldly and emphatically that there will be, and must be, no more war. This was said for a while but that period has passed. The optimism of the wise has been destroyed by the experiences of the last fifteen years. I do not believe that immediate war is impending. Unless, however, something much more thorough and radical is done than has been done up to the present

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time, war will certainly occur within five years. Meantime, with so much inflammable material scattered all over the map of the world, any untoward incident may be the match to fire the train that will set the world in flames.

Underlying all of these political causes is world wide economic distress. Nations, in order to save themselves are turning to their own problems, accepting dictatorships on terms that would have seemed impossible only a few years ago.

America is deeply involved in all of these world interests. Our traditional attitude of aloofness from European affairs could not save us from participation in the world war. Since then our policy of isolation has intensified the ill effects of the war's aftermath and brought ruin upon us more extensive and devastating than is to be found in any other country. It is with this dark picture in mind that we set about to take our bearings and chart our course for another year.

During the year our organization has been extremely active. We have preached; we have conferred; we have prepared educational material; we have sought out new friends and have won them in support of the things we are trying to do. Here in America, through the efforts of The Church Peace Union and the World Alliance combined, we have stirred up a deep interest in everything that is being done to better international relations. The support given by the non-governmental agencies of our country to the Disarmament Conference is simply amazing—the millions of names signed to petitions, the thousands of resolutions sent to the Conference, the hundreds of mass meetings held throughout the nation in its support; the activities of the churches, the Sunday Schools, the men's clubs—everything that could be done, seems to have been done, and if public opinion in America could have had its way, an agreement would have been reached by the Conference before the end of the first year. This agreement would have imposed an immediate abolition on all aggressive weapons, limitation of budgets for defense, a substantial cut in existing arms, armaments and armed forces, a control of the manufacture and sale of arms and other munitions of war, and the establishment of a universal board of control, which would, in effect, act as a permanent body to constantly seek ways and means of carrying

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limitation and reduction of armament further until all nations have reduced their armed forces to mere police patrols within their own countries. This program, I am satisfied, is not only endorsed by the majority of people in the United States but has the endorsement of an equal majority in all other countries.

Why then has the effort at disarmament failed? It is for the same reason that the League of Nations fails in its high purposes. It is because selfishness and self-interests preempt first place in all our thinking and acting. Extreme nationalism is simply corporate selfishness. The self-interests of the various countries clashing with each other lead to suspicion, doubt and fear. The leaders in the Geneva Conference are afraid to disarm, afraid to make any bold proposals, because they do not trust each other. They do not believe in each other's words.

The facts which have developed during this year in international affairs indicate more clearly than ever before that if we are to have a peaceful world it must be a world dominated by the ethics and the spirit of religion. The nations must be taught the fundamental principles that form the background of the character of individuals. Honesty, justice, righteousness—these are the foundation stones upon which the community of nations must be built.

We have never learned how to apply ethical principles in a broad way to large groups and masses of people. The religious teacher knows how to inculcate honesty in the mind of an individual and can develop a type of unselfish manhood and womanhood, but how are we to teach the nations the lesson of honesty so that they will develop into unselfish political entities. For almost twenty years the Church Peace Union has been attempting this, and during that period we have made some progress. We have a wider field of acquaintance among the nations than we have ever had before. We have come together in various conferences and group meetings. We have come to learn the viewpoint of the other nations and they have in their turn come to know us better.

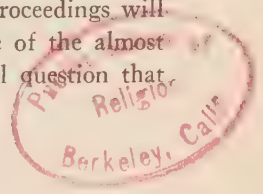
We have developed effective instruments in the World Alliance with its Councils in 32 nations; the "Life and Work Movement" with its five great sections representing official ecclesiastical bodies; the World Conference for International Peace through Religion,

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with committees in India, in China and Japan and the Near East; and with influential members on our World Committee in Indo-China and the Malay States. In this movement we now have a constituency of more than 2500 men and women drawn from every part of the world and representative of every one of the world religions, all of whom receive our literature, support our cause and count themselves as a part of this movement. Dr. Shailer Mathews, Chairman of the Executive Committee, in a letter written from China, copy of which I am attaching to this report, says: "If there ever was need of religion to further peace, it is now . . . As far as I can see, our movement is the only one left in Japan. We have some real supporters. We must not drop it. . . . I believe we can do things with our Committee."

We have also developed a degree of tolerance in our dealings with each other which is new and refreshing, and as never before we have put the question of peace and war into the conscience and program of the churches and religious organizations everywhere. Of course I do not say that all this achievement can be credited to our own organization. We are simply part of a very wide movement among the churches and religious folk of the world, but we have had considerable influence and have found a position of responsibility and leadership, which, while pleasing, and in a measure flattering, puts upon us grave responsibilities for the future. The financial situation here in America, and the bad times in other countries naturally have had a serious effect upon our efforts and the uncertainty of the morrow makes it imperative that we prudently plan for our future work. It will be necessary for this coming year to curtail expenditures and in a measure limit our field of effort, but this does not mean that we propose to abandon any essential effort to carry out our program. When a ship sails into rough weather, the wise captain cuts down his speed but he keeps the bow of his vessel in the same direction and goes ahead with as much speed as prudence will allow.

There can be no question of the importance of the meeting of the World Alliance at Sofia, Bulgaria, in August. (See Report Number V.) Those who were present and took part in the proceedings will never forget their feeling of responsibility in the face of the almost superhuman tasks imposed upon them. The principal question that was under discussion was this:



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Can religion do what all other human agencies have failed to do? The second question was—Can the church and church people be aroused to a sense of their responsibility for world conditions? The proceedings answered these questions in the affirmative. These general questions were made concrete in the discussions of three pressing problems, viz:

Disarmament

Minorities

Race and racial justice.

On the question of Disarmament, the decision taken was not only emphatically in favor of immediate reduction of the present status of armaments among the nations but it demanded also the abolition of those weapons that are useful only for aggressive purposes; the supervision of the manufacture and sale of armaments, and the establishment of an International Board of Control, charged with the responsibility of carrying out the terms of the convention agreed upon by the conference. The World Alliance not only passed this Resolution on Disarmament, but it appointed a committee to present it to the Disarmament Conference and charged this Committee with the responsibility of pressing it through the Councils of the Alliance in every country. This issue was so much to the front that more than one speaker sounded the alarm in these words: "Disarmament now or re-arm in preparation for a greater war than humanity has ever known before. The issue cannot be evaded."

The second problem was the question of minorities. This vexed question is one that no international group or legislative body can avoid. It is as old as the history of human society. The Alliance has been dealing with it for years. Now it has set up a commission and adopted a method of procedure by which the question will be dealt with in an orderly way. The Alliance needs a larger appropriation for this part of its work. If funds were available this commission could become of the greatest value. It proposes to study the question in various countries and to publish from time to time its findings. The commission does not propose to prejudge any minority question, but will collect information and gain experience in dealing with the question in the various countries so that it will be able to help in bringing

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about a settlement wherever and whenever the question becomes acute, and a clash between minorities and majorities is threatened.

The third great problem is that of race. The Conference reaffirmed as a fundamental principle that the Gospel of Jesus Christ is founded on the conception of the universal brotherhood of man and the equality of all races before God. The Jewish question; the treatment of the colored races by the white races—all of these questions were in mind when together the members of the Conference representing all the churches confessed their sins against their brothers of other races. Any religion based upon inequality of status which permits one race to be put in an inferior position is contrary to the spirit of all religion. By the very logic of the Gospel, as well as the spirit of all religion, churches and religious groups everywhere must protest against the unreasoning and brutal anti-Semitism such as has manifested itself in Germany in these latter days.

The members of the Conference were treated with great courtesy and shown every kindness by the King, the Archbishop of Sofia, the Prime Minister, the Mayor of the City and other officials, as well as many private citizens. The entire conference was received in audience by the King. The Alliance is recognized as a real factor in international life and the leaders of States as well as the ecclesiastics are glad to have a part in its proceedings and help in the work it is trying to do. The Prime Minister of Bulgaria gave expression to this idea when he said, "Politics and diplomacy cannot achieve peace without the support of religion and religious folk."

The administration of the international work of the Alliance has been brought together in Geneva. Together with the Life and Work Movement and other international religious agencies, we are sharing office and secretarial services. This makes for efficiency as well as economy. The Rev. Henry-Louis Henriod, the new General Secretary of the Alliance is commanding a larger degree of confidence and gaining a constantly larger leadership.

During the year, as your General Secretary, I have travelled extensively both in America and on the Continent of Europe. In January on a trip throughout the West as far as the Pacific Coast, I delivered 17 addresses in 7 states and attended a number of group meetings. In El Paso I was able to bring together leading representatives

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of American and Mexican life and formed the nucleus of a Committee on Relations Between Mexico and the United States which we hope will become of very great value. Mr. Holmes has been developing this committee since, and we hope that it will become as effective in time as the Committee on Relations with Canada. (Mr. Holmes' report is appended herewith.)

In Europe I arranged and was present at conferences of religious leaders and churches held in Geneva, Paris, London, Brussels, Freiburg, Vienna, Budapest, Prague and Basle, and attended the meetings at Zurich, Novi-Sad and Sofia. Just before leaving Geneva I called together a group of some 35 individuals and reported to them my observations and findings from these various meetings, and laid before them this question: What can the religions of the world do to prevent war, and how can they do it? It unanimously agreed upon a plan that was put forward by Mr. Clarence Streit, the Geneva correspondent of the New York Times.

By this plan there would be created a group of 25 to 50 people in every one of the great world centers. These people would be representative of all shades of religious thought and life. The organization would be simple with a minimum of emphasis upon meetings to pass resolutions and a maximum amount of effort upon study of actual conditions and developments throughout the world. At any time this group could be brought together by its appointed leaders to deal with any particular problem or question that might be uppermost. For instance, should there be a threat of war between two nations a cable or telegram could be sent to the chief of each of these groups throughout the world, with the request that he call together his group for the purpose of taking such action as would indicate the mass opinion of the religious leaders and present it to its own government, and also send it to the central office where it could be relayed to other governments and given the widest possible publicity. By the use of the telegraph, the telephone and the radio, as well as the newspapers, this network of interested parties throughout the world could become a very great influence for good. I am satisfied that the plan is worth considering, for in each place that I went this summer, I had no difficulty in arranging meetings and securing worth-while discussion of the problems at issue. These same groups, after they had been called together a few times, would become accustomed to each other and at

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the same time would develop a degree of autonomy and initiative. Such a grouping would constitute a world-wide series of moral S.O.S. stations.

I believe firmly that we have gone about as far as we can in the holding of international conferences. Smaller groups, more study, and the developing of new methods to get immediate action—these are the things to which we must turn our attention in the days that are to come.

I do not wish to close this report without an expression of hope for the future. Somehow in spite of all the threats on every hand, and without minimizing the serious state in which the world finds itself today, I believe that there is yet enough sanity and enough goodwill to save us from the disaster of another war. The surest way to bring on war right now would be for us to continue to talk about it as being inevitable. War is possible, it may be probable, it is not inevitable. What we must do is to talk peace, pray for peace, work for peace. Through untold centuries we have allowed our fears to dictate our course of action in every world crisis. To go on hoping and working is to enroll ourselves with the minority, but it is a conquering minority; it is this minority that will ultimately triumph, for its cause is just, and the whole future welfare of humanity hinges upon its success.

HENRY A. ATKINSON

II

REPORT OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY

MISS G. S. BARKER

Information Service

Notwithstanding a turn toward national self-sufficiency in politics, the number of requests coming to our Information Service point to an *increased* rather than a *decreased* interest in the study of international relations and world peace. More libraries, universities, colleges, high schools, primary schools than ever have asked for historical, debating and study material, as have international relations clubs, bible classes and individuals. Another example of the interest in our subject are

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requests from institutions establishing permanent exhibits of international peace and goodwill for peace literature, posters, etc., for inclusion in these permanent exhibits. In the last year because of special requests, we have added to our general distribution new pamphlets on Latin-American conditions, the State Department and its functions, profits in arms manufacture, Far Eastern problems, Russia, and armaments. Persons preparing theses or speeches on "comparative education for children," "contemporary peace organizations," "the church as an instrument for peace" and like subjects, write to us for informative material. As an index of the fields covered we have sent out approximately 40,000 pieces of literature in the last ten months, letters coming to us from practically every state in the Union and from as far away as the Philippine Islands, Honolulu, China and Japan. It is perhaps an encouraging sign that the majority of requests come from young groups, beginning with little children and going up to university students and young people's classes. Whether this study will resolve itself into positive action is a challenge to the peace organizations. It is important that organizations like ours keep this interest alive.

Cooperation With Other Organizations

We have been fortunate in being able to cooperate with the American Friends Service Committee, the World Peaceways, the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, the International Student Conference, the W. C. T. U., and many other allied organizations. We were of assistance to the American Friends Service Committee in their Institutes of International Relations held at Duke University, Northwestern University and Wellesley College. The World Peaceways received a small subsidy from our Peace Through Art Committee in order to enable them to reproduce a striking series of five cartoons in the magazine called "Fortune," which has a circulation of 60,000 people.

Exhibit and Children's Material

Our small traveling exhibit, the International Hope Chest, still tours the country, going into small out-of-the-way communities which rarely receive attention. The Chest seems to be particularly welcome in the South. One enthusiast has asked for it two weeks at a

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time in three consecutive years and shows it not only in her own school but sees that it gets around to other schools and teachers' meetings. It also has been used at county fairs.

The Goodwill Lessons and World Friendship Lessons continue to attract attention, so much so that five editions of the first series and four editions of the second series have already been printed. In view of the popularity of these Lessons, a new series is being prepared which we hope to publish next year, funds permitting.

Manifesto of the Churches on War

The Board of Trustees at its annual meeting in 1932 authorized the preparation of a Manifesto on war from the churches. Such a Manifesto was prepared this year and during the summer was sent to about one thousand selected lay and clerical individuals asking for their signature. To date this Manifesto has been signed by about four hundred prominent persons.

Office Administration

Office routine goes on with the same vigour and the same devotion from the secretarial staff as in other years. Due to restricted budgets it has had to be more closely organized than before. The purchase and use of a mimeograph machine has made it possible to get out more material with less help. Economies in administration are exercised in every way.

III.

WORK OF THE AMERICAN BRANCH OF THE WORLD ALLIANCE

The administration and work of the Church Peace Union and the World Alliance has been carried on this year with vigor. Mr. Smith, Mr. Holmes, and Mr. Gordon have travelled widely and have spoken in hundreds of cities throughout America. They have promoted conferences and attended committee meetings, and have co-operated in helping to make the plans effective, of innumerable allied organizations.

One of the weaknesses of the peace movement grows out of the fact that there are so many agencies working for the same end, but

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many of them working at right angles to each other. This year, considerable progress has been made in bringing about a unification of program and cooperation in general campaigning for peace. This is partly due to the fact that owing to the economic strain, it is more difficult than ever before to finance independent organizations and partly due to the feeling that issues are so sharply drawn now that the peace forces must stand together or be prepared to fall singly.

REPORT OF THE FIELD SECRETARY

MR. HARRY N. HOLMES

Field Service

The task of disseminating the message and detailed program of the World Alliance has been carried out by continued contact with the field. There are two objectives in this work: first, an adequate and informed public opinion, and second, an understanding of the World Alliance and its functions. The Field Secretary during the twelve months spoke at 121 meetings, with an attendance of 35,689, at 62 different cities. The following is a typical example of field work. It covers three days in three small cities in West Virginia.

- 1st Day. A.M. Ministers union service.
 P.M. Young people's dinner and public
 meeting in church.
- 2nd Day. Service Club luncheon
 P.M. Church public meeting.
- 3rd Day. A.M. Three high school assemblies.
 P.M. Supper meeting of young people.
 Public meeting with broadcast over
 southern states.

Many articles have been written and contacts made with religious papers and the peace committees of denominational organizations.

Corresponding Members

The Field Secretary has definite responsibility for the Corresponding Members. The Church Peace Union and the World Alliance have established cooperating centers through 875 Corresponding

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Members, covering each state and territory in the Union. These Corresponding Members receive printed matter and programs of the World Alliance and are the only effective constituency for our work throughout the country. It is through them that literature is distributed and material goes to the local press. They are the means by which an emergency campaign for a specific purpose is organized.

This year the Corresponding Members were used in two particular ways, one being the promotion of study groups in connection with the book, "The Causes of War." They also organized during October not less than three hundred meetings in connection with disarmament just prior to the reopening of the Disarmament Conference. One member reported that forty simultaneous young people's meetings were held in his city one Sunday evening.

Committee on Relations with Canada

This Committee, under the Chairmanship of Dr. John W. Langdale, has increasingly developed its program. In its service it largely cooperates with the Rev. Dr. T. Albert Moore of the United Church of Canada. It strives to develop understanding between the United States and the Dominion in order to perpetuate the present happy relations. The interchange of pulpits on Goodwill Sunday in November now extends all along the border from the Pacific to the Atlantic. Two striking illustrations of the importance of this interchange are given below:

1. On November 5 an exchange took place between Minneapolis and Winnipeg. Dr. Richard C. Raines of Minneapolis preached in Westminster Church, Winnipeg. There were reserved sections in the great church for the Premier of the Province, the Mayor and the Lieutenant Governor. Dr. Bonnell of Westminster Church preached in Dr. Raines church, the Hennepin Avenue M. E. Church of Minneapolis. This was really an event of great significance.
2. An International Service for Sunday evening (Remembrance Sunday) was arranged November 12. Five churches, Anglican, Congregational, Methodist Episcopal, Baptist, Union Liberal, of Calais, Maine, and five, McCall United, Kirk United, Baptist, Presbyterian and Trinity Church of England and Milltown United, cooperated. The service was held in the Congregational Church of Calais, Maine, with the Rev. J. L. Rose of Milltown, N.B., United Church of Canada, presiding.

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Rev. W. R. Riddeough, of Machias, Maine, who served in the British Army for four years gave a thrilling address, "Remembrance Challenges Peace." A junior choir of 75 voices assisted the regular choir, special seats being brought in the front for them. Seventy-five of the Canadian Legion marched a mile to the Church, and about twenty of the American Legion were present. No band. No military selections. Inspiring service.

Committee on Relations with the Pacific

This Committee, under the leadership of Mrs. Edgerton Parsons, is now developing into a group of great usefulness. It has especially concerned itself during recent months with attempting to change the tense attitude in the relations between Japan and the United States. It rejoiced when the President announced that the United States navy would shortly be transferred in large measure to the Atlantic. The Committee had been working in this direction. It is now investigating as to whether or not the time has come to bring every nation under the quota law so far as immigration is concerned.

Committee on Relations with Mexico

The World Alliance Executive Committee at a recent meeting asked a small group under the Chairmanship of Dr. E. Graham Wilson to explore the possibility of World Alliance activities with the Southern Republic. This committee has had a number of meetings and contact with many men of authority on Latin-American affairs and hopes shortly to present a report to guide the final decision of the Executive Committee on this matter.

Committee on Relations with Students

Professor Parker T. Moon of Columbia University is the Chairman of this Committee which brings together a number of leaders touching the student life of the universities and educational institutions. Our field work brings us into contact with scores of high schools, college assemblies, special seminars and conferences. This committee distributed during the year a great deal of literature all over the country regarding the State Department as an instrument of peace.

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Field Days

This department is planning especially during the coming year to hold a series of Field Days in as many places as possible. These will largely center around a week end visit by a number of the members of the World Alliance staff, to cover religious, educational and service groups. It has been perfectly amazing to witness the reception of World Alliance visitors. It is impossible to fill all the platform opportunities offered.

There is one conviction that comes from the work during the past year with added force; the evidence that great numbers of American people wish to be adequately informed on world affairs and realize their vital importance to an adequate American policy and American prosperity.

REPORT OF EXTENSION SECRETARY

LINLEY V. GORDON

I report herewith as Secretary of the three following committees:

Committee on Reduction of Armaments

Throughout the year this committee has kept in close touch with the World Disarmament Conference in Geneva. Several meetings of the committee have been held and a definite stand taken on methods and program:

The committee took the following concrete steps:

1. Supported the proposal of the President of the United States made to the Conference through Norman H. Davis.
2. Supported the minimum six-point program, as follows:
 - (1) Substantial reduction of existing armaments.
 - (2) No re-armament.
 - (3) Abolition of aggressive weapons within a definite period and with the immediate elimination of all bombing from the air, of the air weapon in general and of poison gas.
 - (4) Limitation of expenditure to prevent rivalries in armaments.
 - (5) Effective supervision of existing armaments and of arms manufacture and trade.
 - (6) A permanent organization to carry out the above provisions and to carry on the work begun by the Disarmament Conference.

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3. Supported the MacDonald Plan.
4. Held mass meetings in the following cities of the United States:

Burlington, Iowa	Duluth, Minn.
Nashville, Tenn.	Worcester, Mass.
Westerville, Ohio	Los Angeles, Calif.
Providence, R. I.	Baltimore, Md.
Far Rockaway, L. I.	Montclair, N. J.
Portland, Oregon	Brooklyn, N. Y.
Rockford, Ill.	Philadelphia, Pa.
Florence, Alabama	Columbus, Ohio
Buffalo, N. Y.	Mt. Pleasant, Iowa
Cleveland, Ohio	Kenilworth, Ill.
Dallas, Texas	Salina, Kansas
Kansas City, Mo.	Berkeley, Calif.

Radburn, N. J.

5. Sent letters to Arthur Henderson from a large group of leading men in the United States.
6. Prepared and secured the adoption at the Annual Congress of the World Alliance the following resolutions on reduction of armaments and the private manufacture of arms and munitions:

"The World Alliance reiterates its belief that as long as the nations arm and prepare for war, wars will be inevitable; that armaments are among the most fruitful roots of the whole war system; and that there will never be a warless world until these roots of war are eradicated.

When the World Disarmament Conference meets again, we urge that a substantial immediate reduction of armaments be at once agreed upon, and ways and means found for making such reductions effective. To this end we strongly commend the proposals made by President Roosevelt in his Message of May 16, 1933, in which he said:

"The way to disarm is to disarm. The way to prevent invasion is to make it impossible.

I have asked for an agreement among nations on four practical and simultaneous steps:

First, that through a series of steps the weapons of offensive warfare be eliminated;

Second, that the first definite steps be taken now;

Third, that while these steps are being taken no nation shall increase existing armaments over and above the limitations of treaty obligation;

Fourth, that subject to existing treaty rights no nation during the disarmament period shall send any armed force of whatever nature across its own borders.'

This is only the first step. We urge that our own nation as well as all other nations recognize that ultimately, in the interests of peace, the arms and armaments of the nations shall be reduced to the level of police forces for the maintenance of peace and order within their own borders, relying upon international machinery for defense against external aggression."

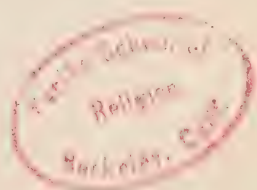
Committee on Interchange of Speakers

During the summer months this committee arranged for the following preachers from the United States to preach in Great Britain:

Rev. Robert M. Bartlett, D.D.	Rev. Rodney L. McQuary
First Church of Christ	Linwood Congregational Church
Longmeadow, Mass.	Minneapolis, Minnesota
Professor Earl Cranston, Ph.D.	Rev. Edgar D. Romig, D.D.
Dept. of History and Politics	West End Collegiate Church
Colgate University,	New York, N. Y.
Hamilton, N. Y.	Rev. Frederick Shannon, D.D.
Rev. William E. Dudley, D.D.	Central Church
Flatbush Ave. Cong. Church	Chicago, Illinois
Brooklyn, N. Y.	Rev. Arthur R. Siebens, Litt.D.
Rev. Pierson P. Harris	First Presbyterian Church
Stanley Congregational Church	Bowling Green, Ohio
Chatham, N. J.	Rev. Frederick K. Stamm
Dr. Henry Spurdle	Clinton Avenue Congregational
Presbyterian Church	Church
Brooklyn, N. Y.	Brooklyn, N. Y.

The visitors from abroad to the United States were:

Rev. James Black, D.D.	Rev. Alexander Gordon
St. George's Church	First Christian Church
Edinburgh, Scotland	Norwood, Winnipeg, Manitoba,
Rev. Alexander Ferguson	Dr. A. Grenfell Price
St. Andrew's Manse	St. Mark's College
Falkirk, Scotland	Adelaide, South Australia
Rev. D. M. Baillie, M.A.	
Kilmalcolm Church	
Renfrewshire, Scotland	



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Arrangements were made for the following American preachers to visit Toronto as summer supply preachers:

Dr. George Emerson Barnes	Dr. John McDowell
Overbrook Presbyterian Church	156 Fifth Avenue
Overbrook, Pennsylvania	New York City
Dr. Frank Kingdon	Dr. J. Ross Stevenson
Calvary Church	Princeton Theological Seminary
East Orange, N. J.	Princeton, N. J.

The following remarks of the visitors to Great Britain may be of interest:

"The summer has been one of the finest experiences of my life. The British people whom I met at the various places assured me that it meant a great deal to them to receive the visitors from America, and I found them treasuring memories of a single day, say with my old school mate Boynton Merrill, although that day may have been years ago. The Glasgow church sent a special message of appreciation to America, and of its desire each year to continue to welcome some of our preachers. For myself I am sure that my effectiveness as a preacher and teacher and my understanding of and sympathy with the peoples and problems of other lands has been greatly increased by these contacts. I am anxious to do all that I can to assure others of having similar privileges, and I want you to count on me to give encouragement to your efforts and to do anything else throughout the years to be sure that your work goes on, and goes on without reduction but even, if possible, on an increased basis. I gathered everywhere that the British churches expect and will welcome our men."—Dr. Earl Cranston of Colgate University, Hamilton, N. Y.

"I had a great time abroad. It was a lovely and profitable experience. I met a lot of very fine people, was entertained royally, and greatly enjoyed the preaching. I had fine congregations everywhere, and judging from the response I received, the people were not greatly hurt by my preaching. I have no hesitancy in saying that I should like to go back again."—Dr. Frederick K. Stamm, The Clinton Avenue Congregational Church, Brooklyn, N. Y.

"I preached every Sunday in July and August. There were three Sundays at Wellington Church in Glasgow, three in Aberdeen and two in St. Andrew's Frognal, London. We thrilled at the churches and enjoyed to the full the real cordiality of the homes in which we were entertained over the week-ends. I am writing to ask you to express to the Committee my very great sense of appreciation of the high privilege which they accorded me in permitting me to go under their auspices and with their ap-

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proval." — Dr. Rodney L. McQuary, Lynnhurst Congregational Church, Minneapolis, Minn.

American Committee on Religious Rights and Minorities

This committee has held several important meetings to consider the situation as it exists in Soviet Russia, Roumania, Transylvania, Mexico, Venezuela, China, Persia and Germany. Mr. Michael Williams, Henry Smith Leiper and Henry A. Atkinson visited Germany and have reported concerning anti-Semitic conditions there.

A pamphlet was prepared in April, 1933, dealing with the question of Religious Liberty in Russia. This was given wide circulation. A delegation presented the statement to the Secretary of State and sent it to President Roosevelt. In the light of what has recently transpired in connection with the recognition of Russia and the condition exacted by the President of the United States to the effect that Americans must have the right to religious liberty in Russia, it is interesting to quote from the Report of the Committee:

"We would furthermore urge that should the United States and the Soviet Government of Russia enter into formal treaty relations mutual assurances should be given that each government will observe faithfully the obligations of international law to guarantee to their citizens the inalienable right of freedom of conscience and worship."

Mr. Herbert Hoover has recently renewed his membership on this committee.

Public Speaking

During the year I spoke on subjects of an international character in the following cities:

Richmond, Va.	Albany, N. Y.	Lake Mohonk, N. Y.
Norfolk, Va.	Washington, D. C.	Germantown, Pa.
Macon, Ga.	Philadelphia, Pa.	Glen Falls, N. Y.
Jacksonville, Fla.	Providence, R. I.	Silver Bay, N. Y.
St. Augustine, Fla.	Chicago, Ill.	Ticonderoga, N. Y.
Winter Park, Fla.	Atlantic City, N. J.	Troy, N. Y.
Indianapolis, Ind.	Princeton, N. J.	Mt. Vernon, N. Y.
Danbury, Conn.	Larchmont, N. Y.	Brooklyn, N. Y.
Boston, Mass.	Lancaster, Pa.	Elmhurst, N. Y.
Forest Hills, N. Y.	Scranton, Pa.	Wayne, Pa.
	Wilkes-Barre, Pa.	

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News Letter

The News Letter has tried throughout the year to interpret the World Disarmament Conference and to arouse public opinion in the United States in favor of disarmament. In it we have supported the non-recognition doctrine as enunciated by President Hoover and later by President Roosevelt, with reference to the relations of Japan to Manchuria.

We have endeavored to show the trend of world affairs and the part American foreign policy should play in the furtherance of world understanding.

We have suggested source material for readers and have reviewed books and pamphlets dealing with the problem of war and peace.

Each edition of the News Letter has been sent to members and corresponding members of the World Alliance, numbering several thousands.

Cooperation With Other Agencies

I represented the Church Peace Union at the many meetings of the National Peace Conference held in New York City. I also served on the League of Nations Association Committee on Reduction of Armament.

V.

THE WORLD ALLIANCE MEETING AT SOFIA

The meeting of the Executive Committee, together with other members specially invited, was held in Sofia on September 15-25, 1933.

On Sunday, September 17, the members attended church services in the Cathedral.

A survey of the reports of the National Councils showed a commendable amount of zeal and progress in the work of the Alliance throughout the world.

For the Western members forming the majority of the Executive Committee, the experience of meeting for the first time in the Balkans and as guests of the Eastern Orthodox Church, was unique. The cynical disdain of international conferences which is now so common would not have been possible to anyone observing this gathering of

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churchmen from many lands and many communions. And yet the deep concern of all was: how can that degree of unity already attained be preserved in the face of the recent revolutionary changes in German Church life and organization? In spite of the fact that many other issues were before the committee, this one was easily paramount in the minds of all and occupied a major portion of the time given to business sessions.

Before speaking of the outcome of these deliberations, one must call attention to other aspects of the record made. The finance committee was able to report that the year had been completed without deficit on current operations and that if the exchange rate had not fallen during the year, the deficit carried over from 1932 would have been wiped out.

For these matters, as well as for the highly delicate and difficult matter of relations with German Christianity, it was providential that the majority of those who took part in the sessions were old friends accustomed to work together. Without the friendly atmosphere, the peaceful neutral setting and able leadership, there might have been the will to understand, but the way might not have been found. As it was, the depth of the emotions stirred by the revolution in German life—ecclesiastical as well as political and social—made it appear at times impossible to find a way to further fellowship. There were times when almost all present felt that the parting of the ways had come. Yet the criticism, which was outspoken, had the quality which Jesus commended: there was appreciation of the flowers before condemnation of the weeds. And there was self-criticism as well as friendly criticism of others. Deeper than any difference lay the conviction that God had some mission for this organization to perform for a divided and hostile world. More powerful than racial or national or theological divergencies was the unifying force of the common loyalty that all affirmed to God the Father and Jesus of Nazareth.

The attempt made to find a statement which would truly represent the mind of the Committee were many. But they were progressive and evolutionary.

The Bulgarian Council, the Church, State and Municipal authorities were most hospitable to this representative gathering of the

Alliance. His Majesty the King received the whole committee in audience and expressed in warm terms his faith in the *rapprochement* of the peoples through the joint action of the Christian Churches. A public meeting in the largest hall of Sofia gave an opportunity to an impressive list of speakers to address the crowded house on the aim and task of the World Alliance.

Important decisions were taken as to closer cooperation with the Universal Christian Council for Life and Work and in investigating common study and action with such bodies as Faith and Order, the International Missionary Council, and the International Youth Christian organizations. Plans were made for the Alliance to share in the International Christian Press and Information Service recently established in Geneva and in such action as can better interpret the work of the League of Nations and the International Labour Organization.

An appeal was addressed to the League of Nations in favor of the Assyrian Christians in Irak, another appeal to the Churches for energetic action with their respective governments on the occasion of the reassembling of the Conference on Limitation and Reduction of Armaments. The Committee established the basis and methods of work of its minority commission and adopted unanimously a resolution on racial minorities.

Professor Zankoff, secretary of the Bulgarian Council, was asked to serve for a period of three years as Secretary for the Orthodox countries, and Dr. N. Zernoff invited to become one of the four regional secretaries of the Joint Youth Commission of the World Alliance and Life and Work Movement. A plan was established to increase the contribution of the National Councils so as to help meet the financial requirements of the Alliance hampered by the fall of income incurred through the disturbed exchanges.

Finally several sessions were devoted to the next meeting of the International Council and its programme, which is to be held (if possible in cooperation with the meeting of the Universal Christian Council for Life and Work) in Budapest in August, 1934.

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VI.

LETTER FROM DR. SHAILER MATHEWS

On Board S/S, en route to China.

October 16, 1933.

My dear Atkinson:

I had rather a hectic week in Tokio, but I think I have got a correct impression of the Japanese attitude toward peace in general and America in particular. I had a big luncheon given me by the Concordia, our Committee and American-Japanese Committee. Baron Sakatani presided and Omori (Buddhist Abbott) a Shinto (whose name I forget) and Chiba spoke. All very polite and general. Then I had small meetings with our Committee and groups of *big* business and religious leaders invited by Sakatani. I also met the Christian Council. In fact had one or two meetings a day on our affairs.

The military party under Araki are stirring up hostility—or perhaps better, fear of—against America. The papers are full of discussions implying America's enmity. The school children are shown pictures of our fleet and everybody is being taught that an "emergency" (that is their word) may arise for which military and naval preparation is needed. I think they are genuinely afraid of Russia, but are using America as a stalking horse for the navy. The big men I met say they understand America's attitude, but that others don't.

The line of thought they follow amounts to this: America will join China in attacking Japan. I told them such a view was preposterous; that while America believed Japan in the wrong as regards China (though I used more tactful words) there was not the slightest desire for war. I tried to give them our general feeling about the quota, the increase of navy, etc., and treaties. But here is their line of thought:

1. Stimson's policy
2. Increase of navy
3. Navy in Pacific

In addition there are rumors about aeroplane fields in China.

Our Committee agrees with us that an educational movement must precede the Conference. They will cooperate along lines of our Commission No. IV and their own plans.

But peace cannot be given much public attention in Japan at present. Certainly not by America unless the fleet is taken back to the Atlantic. Our Movement is the one movement possible.

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I think the situation is serious for Japan. The military have others terrorized. There is a single ray of hope. The delegates to the London Conference are now defending their action. It will be interesting to see if they are assassinated like others. Saito is holding his Cabinet together with difficulty.

If there ever was need of religion to further peace, it is now. I'll write again if I can in time for the December meeting. But so far as I can see our Movement is the only one left in Japan. We have some real supporters. We must not drop it.

By the way, I made a visit to the Patriarch of the Tenrikyo Sect. He was at one of the meetings in Tokyo. I also talked with Buddhist leaders. I believe we can do things with our Committee.

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) SHAILER MATHEWS